



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

MICHAEL M. CLINE
State Coordinator

JANET L. CLEMENTS
Deputy Coordinator

L. RALPH JONES, JR.

10501 Trade Court
Richmond, Virginia 23236-3713
(804) 897-6500
(TDD) 674-2417
FAX (804) 897-6506
Deputy Coordinator

DISASTER FIELD OFFICE
7401 Timberlake Road
LYNCHBURG, VA 24502
FEMA-1458-DR-VA
Commonwealth Situation Report #2
Wednesday, April 2, 2003

1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

12:00 am *Wednesday* April 2, 2003 through 12:00 am *Thursday*, April 3, 2003. (*New Information is in italics*)

2. SITUATION:

A major winter storm struck Virginia beginning February 15 causing major flooding in Southwest Virginia and significant ice and snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley and areas of Northern Virginia. The weather pattern continued to bring warmer temperatures, melting snow/ice and more heavy rainfall, which combined to cause more local flooding.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency on February 16, 2003 to speed state agency assistance and resources to localities in need. The counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Essex, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester declared emergencies.

The Governor requested the federal Public Assistance program (PA) on February 28th for snow and/or flooding for the following localities: the counties of Albemarle, Arlington, Bland, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Essex, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Grayson, Greene, Highland, Lee, Louisa, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Alexandria, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester.

“Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities”

The Governor requested the federal Individual Assistance program (IA) on March 4th these winter storm events in the counties of Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison, Montgomery, Prince William, Roanoke including the Town of Vinton, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Roanoke, Salem and Winchester.

A Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1458-DR-VA) was declared on March 27, 2003. The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Montgomery, Russell, Tazewell and Wise and the cities of Norton, Roanoke and Salem were designated for Individual Assistance (IA). Public Assistance (PA) is available for the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Orange and Rappahannock and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and Winchester. A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lynchburg on March 31, 2003. The hours of operation are 7:00am – 6:00pm, daily.

3. WEATHER

Sunny and breezy this afternoon with temperatures in the high 70s with winds ranging from 5-10 mph. Mostly clear tonight with lows in the 50's and low winds. Thursday is forecasted to be sunny and warmer with temperatures in the upper 70s.

4. CURRENT PRIORITIES:

- A. Implement strategies to distribute information to affected areas in Community Relations (CR) and Human Services (HR).
- B. Coordinate with FEMA on additional Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) and add-on and localities.
- C. Complete Disaster Field Office (DFO) set-up.
- D. Housing strategy coordination (Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC)).
- E. Mitigation strategy coordination.
- F. Public Assistance strategy coordination.
- G. Obtain signatures for FEMA/State agreement.
- H. Training for staff on Individual Household Program.
- I. Establish training component for DFO.

5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:

A. Individual Assistance (IA):

- Section setup and integration with FEMA Human Services.
- Soliciting local coordinators for updates to Initial Damage Assessments (IDA) of requested but non-designated jurisdiction with an eye to performing joint Federal/State Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA) for potential disaster declaration add-ons.

- Monitor teleregister data for potential disaster declaration add-ons and/or necessity for Disaster Recovery Centers.
 - Continue coordination with non-designated localities for adjusted damage assessments, PDAs and potential add-ons.
 - Prepare IA staffing plan.
 - *The number of teleregistrations are declared localities 247 and non- declared localities 16.*
- B. Public Assistance (PA):**
- Work with FEMA in an effort to have additional localities, not declared, added to the snow and flooding declarations.
 - Prepare for Thursday's applicants briefing plan on Thursday, April 3rd.
- C. Community Relations (CR):**
- Obtained designated jurisdiction demographic data.
- D. Hazard Mitigation (HM):**
- Coordinating mitigation and NFIP staffing.
 - Currently *developing a Hazard Mitigation Plan for 1458-DR-VA.*
 - *Currently contacting the six Planning District Commissions(PDC) which are actively developing all natural hazards plans.*
- E. Public Affairs Office (PAO):**
- *Organized Joint Information Center (JIC) with FEMA public affairs.*
 - *Drafted media advisory announcing the JIC phone number and fax number.*
 - Finalize media list.
 - *Continue to work on the first issue of Recovery Times.*
 - *Drafted news release promoting FEMA's teleregistration number.*
 - Media outreach in declared and undeclared localities.
 - *Established contact with SBA public affairs.*
 - *Prepare media advisory about JIC and news release about teleregistration number in the near future.*
- F. Legislative Liaison:**
- *Letters prepared to State Senators and Delegates to the General Assembly for the jurisdictions requested, but not yet declared.*
 - *Preparation of notification to members of the General Assembly of the declared jurisdictions on DFO opening and points of contact.*

G. Information and Planning

- Creating an e-mail listing of local administrators and emergency coordinators for the purpose of electronic mailing of Situation Reports (SITREP).
- Request Branch Daily Status Report forms by noon everyday for input into the SITREP.

WAT
April 2, 2003
1800

Michael M. Cline, SCO